

# The Aluminum Situation

Department of Economics and Statistics

September 1984

## Seven Month Shipments Up 18.8 Percent

Net shipments for seven months of 1984, at an estimated 9,674 million pounds, were 18.8 percent higher than the 8,146 million pounds for 1983's first seven months.

Domestic shipments of 9,086 million pounds were 21.5 percent higher than the 7,477 million pounds shipped in 1983's first seven months.

Seven-month Imports were up 36.0 percent but exports declined 12.0 percent.

## Thru July 1984

|                | 7 mos.<br>1984 | 7 mos.<br>1983 | %<br>Change |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Mill Products  | 7,274          | 6,436          | +13.0       |
| Ingot          | 2,400          | 1,710          | +40.4       |
| Total          | 9,674          | 8,146          | +18.8       |
| Less Exports   | (588)          | (669)          | -12.0       |
| Domestic Total | 9,086          | 7,477          | +21.5       |

Millions of Pounds  
Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.  
Previous data-Bureau of the Census.

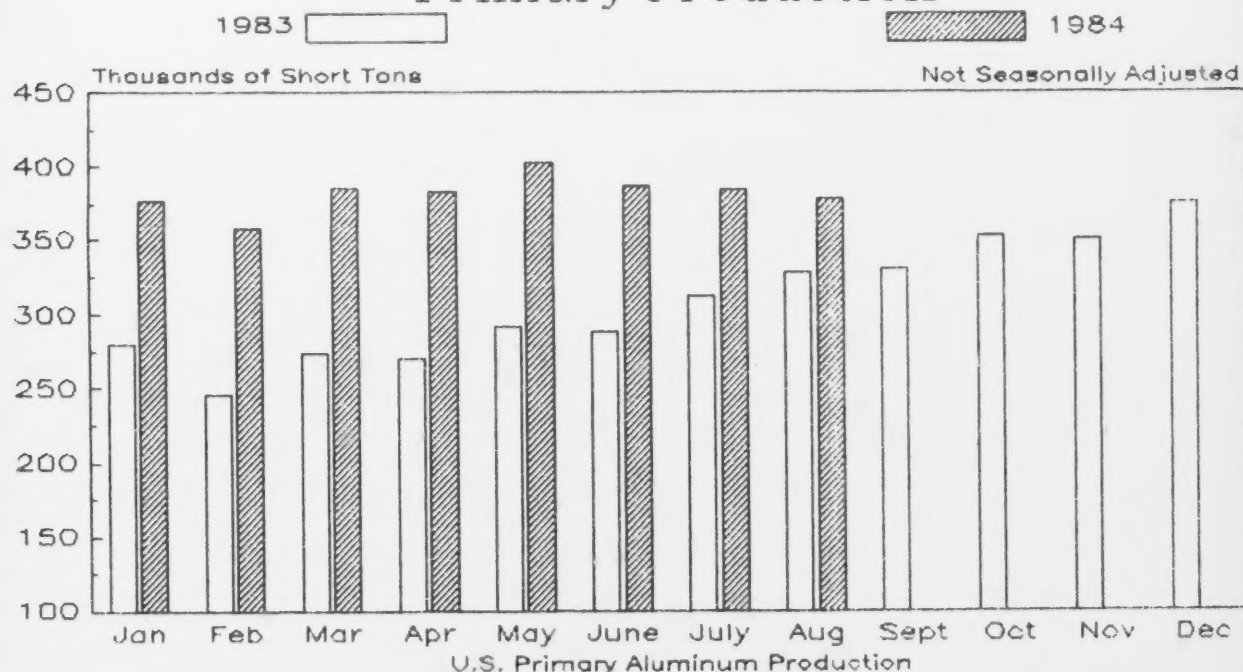
## Production Rate Up 15.8 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 12,218 short tons daily during August 1984 compared with an average 10,550 tons a day in August 1983.

The annual rate of production in August 1984 was 4,471,658 tons, compared to 3,850,762 tons in August 1983. July 1984 production rate was 4,544,439 tons.

Actual production in August 1984 was 378,747 tons.

## Primary Production

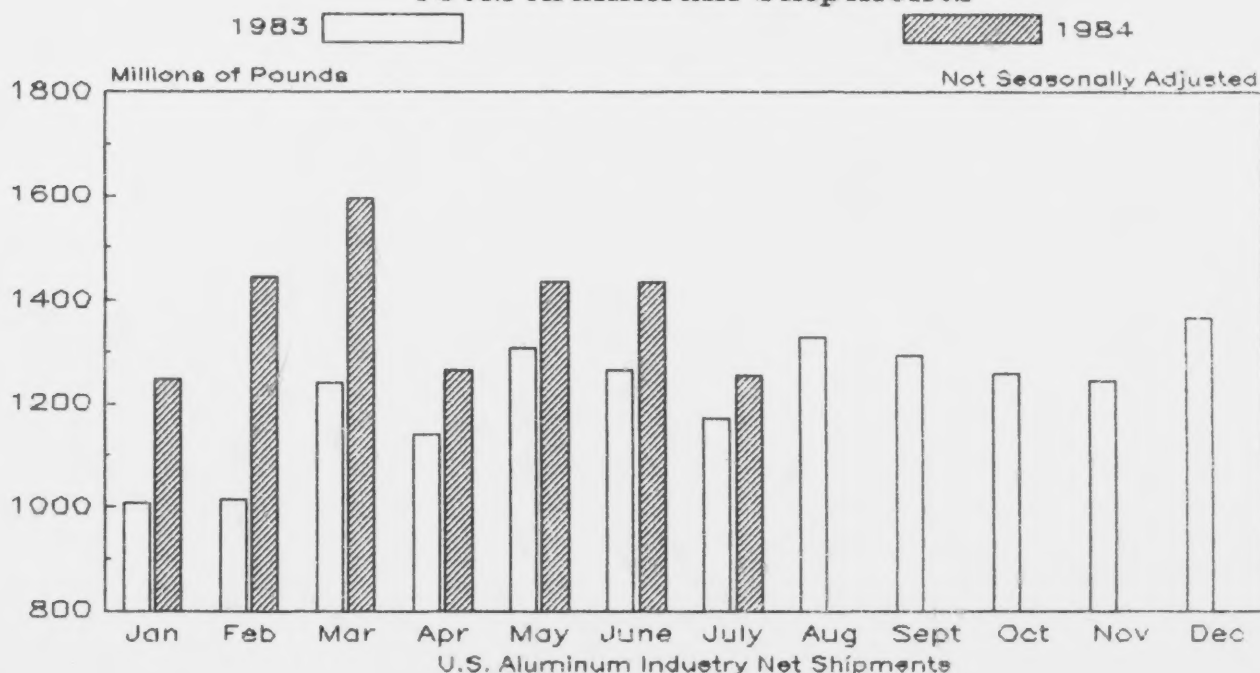


Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

## July 1984 Shipments Up 7.3 Percent Over Year Ago

July 1984 net shipments at an estimated 1,255 million pounds were 7.3 percent higher than July 1983 shipments of 1,170 million pounds. Domestic shipments were up 10.8 percent vs. July 1983.

### Total Aluminum Shipments



### Net Shipments

(Millions of Pounds)

|                                             | 1984<br>July | 1983<br>July | 1984<br>7 mos. | 1983<br>7 mos. | % Change YTD<br>1984 vs. 1983 |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Sheet                                       | 491.0        | 543.9        | 3,803.4        | 3,571.9        | + 6.5                         |
| Plate                                       | 20.0         | 13.7         | 148.0          | 119.5          | +23.8                         |
| Foil                                        | 68.0         | 56.1         | 499.5          | 480.2          | + 4.0                         |
| Rod, Bar & Wire                             | 21.0         | 15.8         | 183.1          | 143.2          | +27.9                         |
| Electrical Conductor                        | 67.0         | 53.5         | 418.9          | 407.3          | + 2.8                         |
| Extruded Products                           | 210.0        | 185.2        | 1,493.5        | 1,268.6        | +17.7                         |
| Welded Tube                                 | 5.0          | 4.5          | 43.2           | 30.3           | +42.6                         |
| Powder & Paste                              | 8.0          | 4.0          | 56.0           | 48.2           | +16.2                         |
| Forgings & Impacts                          | 12.0         | 7.6          | 86.4           | 64.9           | +33.1                         |
| Net Imports of Mill<br>Products (Total) (a) | 103.0        | 49.3         | 542.6          | 301.7          | +79.8                         |
| Total Mill Products                         | 1,005.0      | 933.6        | 7,274.6        | 6,435.8        | +13.0                         |
| Ingots (b)                                  | 250.0        | 235.9        | 2,399.9        | 1,709.7        | +40.4                         |
| TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS                    | 1,255.0      | 1,169.5      | 9,674.5        | 8,145.5        | +18.8                         |
| Exports                                     | (84.6)       | (112.9)      | (588.4)        | (668.8)        | -12.0                         |
| TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS                    | 1,170.4      | 1,056.6      | 9,086.1        | 7,476.7        | +21.5                         |

\*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.  
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.

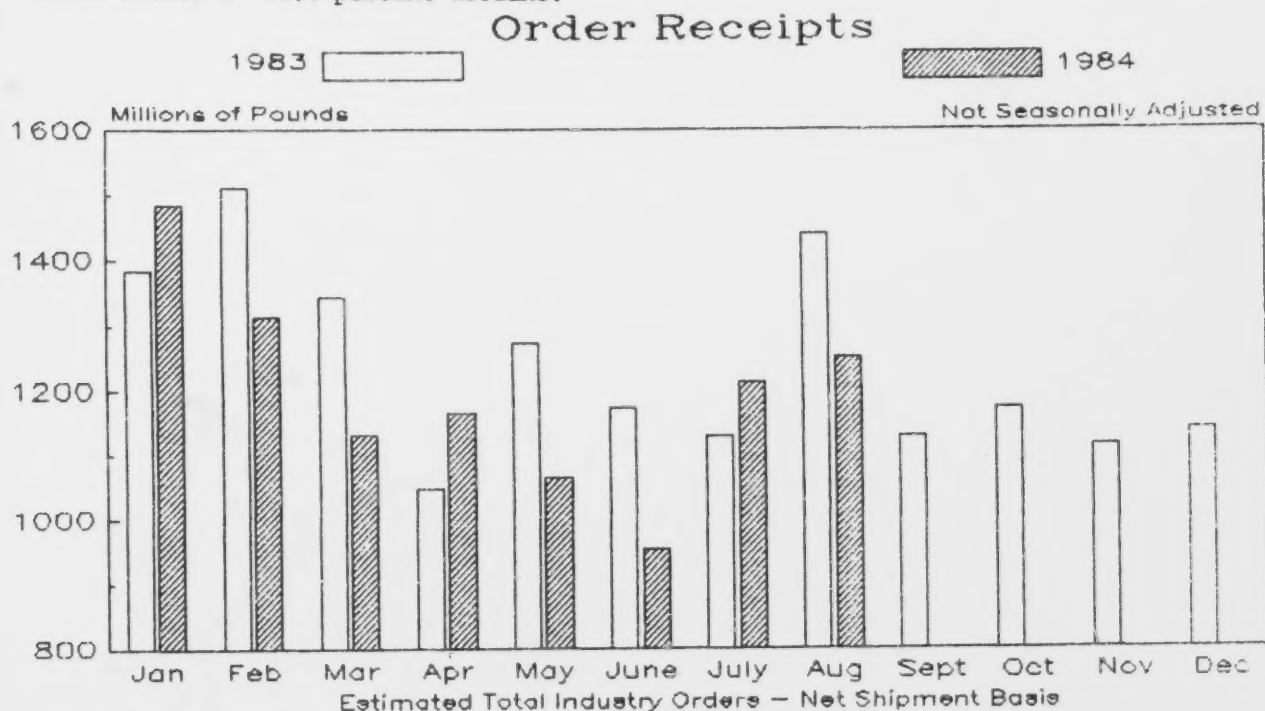
(a) Not included in product data above.

(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.

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## August 1984 Order Receipts 13.2 Percent Lower vs. Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for August 1984 of 1,250 million pounds were 13.2 percent lower than the 1,440 million pounds for July 1983. Domestic mill products total showed a 22.0 percent decline.



### Order Receipts

(Millions of Pounds)

|                           | 1984*<br>Aug.  | 1983<br>Aug.   | 1984<br>8 months | 1983<br>8 months | % Change YTD<br>1984 vs. 1983 |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Can Stock(a)              | 313.4          | 369.0          | 2,145.2          | 2,203.2          | - 2.6                         |
| Sheet & Plate, Other      | 232.5          | 389.1          | 2,188.2          | 2,926.3          | -25.2                         |
| Foil                      | 63.5           | 69.8           | 536.5            | 573.0            | - 6.4                         |
| Rod, Bar & Wire           | 22.7           | 17.2           | 186.0            | 159.4            | +16.7                         |
| Electrical Conductor      | 81.8           | 95.7           | 564.8            | 461.0            | +22.5                         |
| Extruded Products         | 183.7          | 214.3          | 1,524.2          | 1,483.0          | + 2.8                         |
| Powder & Paste            | 7.3            | 9.3            | 78.1             | 65.0             | +20.2                         |
| Forgings & Impacts        | 9.1            | 8.1            | 92.6             | 53.8             | +72.1                         |
| Domestic Mill Products    | 914.0          | 1,172.5        | 7,315.6          | 7,918.7          | - 7.6                         |
| Ingot(Total)              | 256.6          | 177.8          | 1,642.7          | 1,688.2          | - 2.7                         |
| <b>TOTAL DOMESTIC</b>     | <b>1,170.6</b> | <b>1,350.3</b> | <b>8,958.3</b>   | <b>9,606.9</b>   | <b>- 6.8</b>                  |
| Exports                   | 79.4           | 89.8           | 604.8            | 688.7            | -12.2                         |
| <b>TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS</b> | <b>1,250.0</b> | <b>1,440.1</b> | <b>9,563.1</b>   | <b>10,295.6</b>  | <b>- 7.1</b>                  |

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.

(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.

\*Latest month.

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## Inventories Increased in July 1984 By 139 Million Pounds

Producer inventories increased an estimated 139 million pounds in July 1984 from June 1984. Integrated producers' stocks went up 136 million pounds. Total stocks are now 762 million pounds higher than at year-end 1983.

### Month-End Aluminum Inventories By Type of Producer Figures in Millions of Pounds

| Month  | Total* | Integrated | Smelters | Non-Integrated |
|--------|--------|------------|----------|----------------|
| Dec 80 | 5,076  | 4,018      | 261      | 797            |
| Dec 81 | 6,607  | 5,542      | 266      | 798            |
| Dec 82 | 6,180r | 5,224      | 216      | 740r           |
| Jul 83 | 5,451r | 4,453      | 193      | 805r           |
| Aug 83 | 5,353r | 4,345      | 192      | 816r           |
| Sep 83 | 5,236r | 4,209      | 202      | 826r           |
| Oct 83 | 5,273r | 4,260      | 198      | 815r           |
| Nov 83 | 5,191r | 4,140      | 193      | 858r           |
| Dec 83 | 4,994r | 3,979      | 163      | 853r           |
| Jan 84 | 5,176  | 4,081      | 206      | 889            |
| Feb 84 | 5,229  | 4,116      | 209      | 904            |
| Mar 84 | 5,305  | 4,167      | 214      | 923            |
| Apr 84 | 5,435r | 4,289      | 218r     | 928r           |
| May 84 | 5,579r | 4,417      | 233r     | 928r           |
| Jun 84 | 5,617r | 4,474r     | 243r     | 900r           |
| Jul 84 | 5,756  | 4,610      | 240      | 906            |

\*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.  
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

## Imports and Exports

(Millions of Pounds)

|             |                 | 1984<br>July | 1983<br>July | 1984<br>7 mos. | 1983<br>7 mos. | % Change<br>1984 v. 1983 |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Imports     | Mill Products   | 125.4        | 51.0         | 654.6          | 346.2          | +89.1                    |
|             | Ingot           | 133.0        | 158.6        | 1,192.2        | 1,011.6        | +17.9                    |
|             | Total           | 258.4        | 209.6        | 1,846.8        | 1,357.7        | +36.0                    |
|             | Scrap (+ dross) | 39.1         | 15.5         | 184.3          | 96.0           | +91.9                    |
|             | Grand Total     | 297.6        | 225.0        | 2,031.1        | 1,453.8        | +39.7                    |
| Exports     | Mill Products   | 40.3         | 31.2         | 305.1          | 264.1          | +15.5                    |
|             | Ingot           | 44.3         | 81.7         | 283.3          | 404.8          | -30.0                    |
|             | Total           | 84.6         | 112.9        | 588.4          | 668.8          | -12.0                    |
|             | Scrap           | 32.3         | 52.1         | 256.5          | 291.0          | -11.9                    |
|             | Grand Total     | 116.9        | 165.0        | 844.9          | 959.9          | -12.0                    |
| Net Imports |                 | 180.7        | 60.1         | 1,186.2        | 493.9          |                          |

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.